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Today's Post Bag

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Early Harvest in Negev

The spring harvest in some parts of the Negev and the south can begin as early as April 23 and 24, the Field Crops Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Development announced on Wednesday.

The department, which is continually examining the crops, will announce to each farmer the proper time for harvesting, it was said. However, the department requests that individual farmers not begin harvesting before the designated date.

Farmers in need of combines and other equipment should apply immediately to the department, as well as those who have equipment to rent.

1 Killed as Truck Tumbles Down Slope

BEERSHEVA, Thursday.—One person was killed and six others severely injured when a Public Works Department truck overturned and tumbled 50 metres down the steep slope of a hill at six o'clock yesterday afternoon on the Tel Yehoram-Beersheva road.

The victim, Ya'akov Ben-Zion, 51, died on the way to the Hadassah Hospital here. Among the others, the condition of Talia Sade, a passenger, was tonight reported to be critical. The only one to escape with slight injuries was the ninth person in the truck, the driver, who received first aid and was later detained. He allegedly had been travelling at excessive speed.

An unidentified woman was killed when she jumped off an elevated bus in the Negev yesterday. Her body was taken to the Hadassah Hospital in Beersheva and the driver, Yehonatan Green, 25, was detained and later released on bail.

Spanish Minister In Old City

AMMAN, Thursday (Reuter).—Spanish Foreign Minister Martin Artajo, currently visiting the Middle East, is expected to meet King Talal and Premier Twirik Pasha Abdul Huda during his stay here.

Senor Artajo, who arrived in the Old City of Jerusalem yesterday, is expected here from April 13 to 16, when he will leave for Damascus.

Besides Jordan and Syria, he is due to visit Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Egypt before returning to Spain on April 23.

Senor Artajo flew to the Old City from Beirut and visited the Holy Sepulchre for the first time. In his party were General Franco's daughter, the Marquesa Carmen de Villaverde, and her husband. They will stay in the Old City, whence they will go to Teheran.

Ike Can Quit When U.K. Lifts Ban

WASHINGTON, Thursday (Reuter).—President Truman today told his news conference that he would announce the resignation of General Eisenhower from his European post whenever the General was ready to have it made.

He declined to say if he had yet received any communication from the General.

Mr. Truman said his authorization to appoint the NATO supreme commander was a continuing authorization and he would therefore appoint a successor if Eisenhower resigns.

The President said the procedure would be for Gen. Eisenhower to make a statement through the Secretary of Defense. As President he would convey it and as a matter of courtesy he would inform other NATO powers.

Yesterday Senator Robert Taft won the Illinois Republican primary, defeating the incumbent, Mr. Harold Stassen and Gen. Eisenhower. Mr. Taft's victory was controlled over 40 of the 50 delegates to the Party convention next July—his biggest delegate victory in any primary since 1940.

Running without opposition in the Democratic primary, Senator Charles McNary, 74, won the Indiana primary.

The count for 6,811 of the 9,919 polling districts was:

Republican: Mr. Taft 52,483, Mr. Stassen 44,530, Gen. Eisenhower 37,179, Mr. Adlai Stevenson (write-in) 41,288, Mr. Truman 6,328.

Trieste Group Off For London Talks

TRIESTE, Thursday (UP).—Representatives of left-wing Slovene and independent parties in the Free Territory of Trieste left here by train for London today to present their views to the conference on Trieste.

The group includes Mr. Brancaccio, Secretary-General of the territory's Yugoslav Communist Party, Signor Giuseppe Anselmo, President of the Committee for the Defense of the Free Territory, and Signor Mario Stocco, head of the Independent Democratic Party.

The three-power conference on Trieste completed the first phase of its discussions today. An official communiqué said they resulted in "useful exchange of views."

The conference will be resumed after the Easter holiday. It will then seek a scheme which will give the Italian Government a direct say in the administration of the Western-controlled Zone A of the free territory.

Oil Loaded From New Iraq Pipeline

DAMASCUS, Thursday (Reuter).—The 14,000-ton French tanker Baghdad was yesterday the first ship to load crude oil from the Iraq Petroleum Company's new 76-cms. pipeline at Basra on the Syrian coast.

The pipeline, 800 kms. long, is to carry 1 m. tons of oil per annum from Kirkuk in eastern Iraq to Basra, where 23 great storage tanks—holding 7m. gallons each—are being erected. The oil is loaded from these tanks, which are among the biggest in the world, through six submarine lines into tankers anchored on the Gulf of Basra. Large flexible hoses moored to buoys at the end of the loading lines are used to carry the oil into the tankers.

A small harbour for the company's launches used in the loading operations is to be completed next October.

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Marauders Fired On In Northern Negev

A sharp exchange of fire between marauders and an Army and a police contingent in the Northern Negev on Tuesday night followed an attempt by a customs officer and two assistants to stop a truck, which they believed to be carrying smuggled goods. The three men were fired upon heavily but succeeded in extricating themselves without injury.

The Army and the police arrived soon afterwards and frisked the band off.

On the following day, marauders looted the huts of the Even Ve'ed Quarrying Company in the Negev and stole 50 empty sacks. They were chased away by the police.

It is believed that both attacks were carried out by the same band.

Currency in Circulation Up by IL3.3m.

TEL AVIV, Thursday.—Currency in circulation rose by IL2.3m. last week, from IL12,677,738,500 to IL13,977,738,500 at the close of banking business yesterday.

The increase resulted from a jump in Treasury bills to IL38,230,000.

Most February Olim Were Unmarried

TEL AVIV, Thursday.—More than half—56.2 per cent—of the 1,488 Jewish immigrants above the age of 15 who entered the country during February were unmarried. More than 1,100 persons were 15 and older.

Of the total number of Jewish newcomers, 43.9 per cent came from Europe, 42.5 per cent from Asia and 12.8 from Africa.

Immigration dropped from 3,526 in January.

During February, new arrivals in the 15-44 age group rose to 47 per cent of the total, from 40.2 per cent in this age group in the preceding month; while the 6-14 age group dropped from 32.1 per cent to 25.6 per cent.

In the same month, 4,572 persons left the country, of whom 2,805 were Jews. Of the total number, 1,785 were residents; 334 were non-Jews permitted to enter Jordan via Mandelbaum Gate for brief visits; 1,505 were tourists; and 948 one-day visitors. Jews accounted for 1,253 of the residents, 968 of the tourists, and 86 of the one-day visitors.

Two Months Jail For Wounding Blind Man

For bayonetting a blind man in a quarrel over evacuating a room, Shlomo Mirzahi, 30, a former policeman, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment on Wednesday by Jerusalem Magistrate Moshe Golan. Mirzahi was asked in January to leave the apartment by Shlomo Mirzahi.

The prosecution established that the blind man, Yitzhak Mirzahi, was asked in January to leave the apartment by Shlomo Mirzahi.

The court that the act was unintentional. Magistrate Golan postponed his imprisonment until after the Passover holidays.

U.S. Bond Aid Good For M.E. Democracy

NEW YORK, Thursday (UP).—Money reaching Israel from bond-sale investments contributes to the strengthening of democracy in the Middle East, Mr. James M. Mead, Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, said at a dinner in support of the Israel Bond Drive here on Tuesday night.

On the struggle between Communists and opposing camps, he said that Israel was one of the nations where "the light of freedom shines up more brightly, where it has been kindled and kept burning."

Missouri Floods Cause Havoc

PIERRE, SOUTH DAKOTA, Thursday (UP).—The Missouri River overflowed its banks and poured into Pierre last night in the worst flood "in modern history," covered 34 city blocks and forced nearly 1,500 persons to flee the area.

Frantic attempts were being made to sand-bag the water plant in hope that it could be saved when the expected crest hit the city.

Downstream at Sioux Falls, officials warned that the protecting dikes may go out "any minute." The National Guard was called out at Sioux City, Iowa.

Thousands of acres of farmland are flooded and across the city, Fort Pierre is about four-fifths under water which has already rushed through the municipal power plant causing electrical breakdowns and cutting off the city's fresh water supplies.

Radio Clinic Levy

Sale-Repairs-Construction

Radio Clinic Levy

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Opera

TEL AVIV

Monday, April 14, 8:30 p.m.

"Hedemans"

Opera in 3 acts by Jean Serruys

Conductor: G. SINGER

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In taxis on the road, they changed into First Century costumes and applied their makeup. On instructions from the producer, they mounted their animals, scattered into the hills and on the shrub of a hillside, swooped down towards the Jordan and the camera.

"Roman Cavalry"

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Soloist: SEYMOUR GOLDENBERG

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to D-major — BEETHOVEN

Overture "L'Enfant No. 1"

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BRITISH THEORY CONCENTRATES ON SEA ROUTES U.K. Gives Mediterranean Priority

By LEO HEIDMAN

UNNOTICED by most of the world's press, another series of naval manoeuvres, known as Operation Full Toss, arrived in the wake of Operation Grand Slam, the four-nation 200 warship exercise in the Mediterranean around which press attention was centred.

With only forty warships participating, and being a purely British affair, Full Toss was relatively small when compared to Grand Slam. Its importance, however, from the point of view of the British Admiralty, exceeds that of Grand Slam.

In this largest post-war British naval exercise, carried out from March 17 to 27 in the Central Mediterranean, the combined British Home and Mediterranean Fleets participated under the command of Admiral Sir George Creasy, Commander-in-Chief of the Home Fleet.

The presence of Admiral Sir Rhoderick McGrigor, the First Sea Lord of the Admiralty, in Malta and aboard various flagships of the Combined Fleets during the manoeuvres, is generally regarded as a matter of paramount importance in naval circles.

This is the first time in British naval history that the Home Fleet, the so-called "senior" fleet, has come to the Mediterranean to participate in joint manoeuvres.

Spring Innovation Until now, when the Home Fleet went on its annual Spring Cruise, the Mediterranean Fleet would come up to Gibraltar to join the Home Fleet there for manoeuvres in the Atlantic. Afterwards, the combined fleets used to visit the French Riviera and other Mediterranean ports, but the age-old custom of holding joint manoeuvres called for the Mediterranean Fleet to join the Home Fleet.

This innovation, as well as the arrival of Admiral McGrigor, shows that the British, like the Americans, have finally given top priority to the Mediterranean naval theatre of operations.

In contrast to the Grand Slam, which tried out all its defensive and offensive operations, Full Toss concerned itself with the

JAFFA ROAD LANDMARK DEMOLISHED



Jerusalem's Nahlat Shiva Quarter was built 76 years ago and is named for the seven Jewish families who ventured out of the Old City to build "suburban" homes in what is now the business centre of the city. Condemned as unsafe, razing this building will permit the widening of the Nahlat Shiva Lane.

Bible Commentator

Mr. Maurice Simon, Oxford, '97, scholar and life-long student of the Bible, has become convinced during his present visit to Israel that the "country and people are here to stay." In fact, he would like to settle here.

That wasn't the case 27 years ago on my last visit, he recalled. The country was essentially Arab, of course, except for the few settlements. And I have never been a strong nationalist. I didn't like the way things were shaping up here during the intervening years since I preferred to see some sort of joint Jewish-Arab state. The marked breach between both peoples is tragic, but I guess it couldn't be helped. I tend to blame all three parties concerned — Jews, Arabs and British.

Mr. Simon, who is the brother of Sir Leon, attributed the country's present strong foundations to the growth and development of Hebrew as the "unifying language of the people," and to the young generation, for whom the 76-year-old Bible scholar expressed boundless admiration.

He was surprised at the number of "middle-class" people from abroad who had gone on the soil, citing a friend of his who had been a professor in England and who was now "bubbling over with enthusiasm for gardening." Another feature which had caught his fancy was Jerusalem's cultural life, which he compared to town life in Oxford or Cambridge. Rehovot also impressed him as did the country's overall cultural level.

Mr. Simon's outstanding work was as chief collaborator in the translations of the Zohar, Talmud and Midrash Rabbah, all of which took 16 years and which have been described as "opening a new world to English-speaking Jews." He wrote "Jewish Religious Conflicts," a book surveying Jewish religious development, and a very recent volume on Jewish philosophy. For many years he was a chief contributor to the Annual Register, leading British reference book. "Now I'm going back to the fountainhead, to the Bible, for my new work," he said. It will be a commentary on the first book, Genesis.

ROBERT GARY.

Readers' Letters

ANOTHER "COURTEOUS GESTURE" To the Editor of THE POST Sir, — In your issue of March 25, under the heading "Courteous Gesture" a reader of yours reported that the British Council, upon his enquiry for a textbook, had immediately ordered the book for him in the U.K. I imagine that this was not the only instance of kind assistance given, judging from my own experience.

I was a member of the British Book Club in London receiving a book every month. Considering, however, that our Treasury could not allocate the foreign currency to me for the renewal of my subscription, I applied to the British Council who, without much ado, renewed the subscription for me and I have already received the first book. I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the British Council for their prompt reaction and assistance.

Yours etc. ERWIN STERNBERG Tel Aviv, March 27.

FORGOTTEN To the Editor of THE POST Sir, — In reply to the many enquiries received by me during the past few days, I would like to state that this year as well I was not invited to the Youth Aliya's celebration of Children's Day.

Yours etc. RECHA FRIER Jerusalem, April 6.

WAITERS' THANK YOU To the Editor of THE POST Sir, — The graduates of the waiters' course recently held at the Israel Touring Club, Jerusalem and sponsored by the Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the Waiters' Union and the Labour Exchange wish to extend their sincerest thanks to all responsible for the cause. They include Mrs. Bracha Rosen.

TOURISTS EVERY MON

Rediscovering Israel

SHUVAL AND THE SHEIKH

By Gerda L. Cohen

THE vast sheet of green dunes on the grey streak of road to Beer Sheva. The Negev? This is all green, sprinkled with gold and lavender, flowers, smiling and prosperous. It resembles a wheat prairie in Canada more than the naked wasteland of Israel. And in one sense, the Negev is indeed prospering; much rain gladdened the farmers, and there will be a bumper crop of cereals this year.

Not far from the junction of the new and the old roads to Beer Sheva, Shuval occupies one side of the highway, and Sheikh Sulaiman the other. The massive water-tower of Kibbutz Shuval overlooks the black tents of Sheikh Sulaiman, perched out on the sandy dunes like a survey of ragged bats. Despite a difference of some thousand years in the age of their respective communities, Shuval and the Sheikh share certain problems.

Since the night five years ago when Kibbutz Shuval was founded, together with the other ten settlements of "Operation Negev," the first handful of tents has grown into the largest and best organized kibbutz of the Negev.

Prices and Business. Shuval has about twice as many dunams under cultivation this year as any other Negev settlement. Their own winnowing-plant, the only one in the Negev, cleaned and sorted the grain for need. They have three combines and innumerable machines for large-scale dry-farming. The dairy, which houses a herd of 130 milkers, dozens of calves and five pedigree bulls, is cleaner than any to be seen in kibbutzim or villages established many years before. Shuval, they are now building a milking-parlor and refrigeration-plant which will ensure absolute purity of the 1000 liters produced daily. All the fodder for the herd is grown and reaped on the kibbutz land and stored in two silos just out of their scaffolding. The chicken-houses and incubating-house are similarly well-run, free of disease, highly productive. And yet... the whole business doesn't pay.

Shuval had plans to double the dairy herd and obtain organic manure which could improve the yield of their ploughland. When the price of petrol, oil, stock, spare-parts — everything in fact — soared skyward, and the price of milk and cereals remained obstinately the same, Shuval became rather worried. A faction wanted to reduce the number of milkers; finally they compromised: no expansion, but no distribution. The Government order to kill off 20 per cent of the laying hens was something of a catastrophe. Shuval had just finished building another chicken-house, alongside the model dairy which proves more of a deficit each month. "We would get more profit from a gas-works on the road than we do from the milk," they gave me a sample jugful out of the churn, and it was not hard to taste the absence of Taura dried milk and water. If the Government wants more like ours, they will have to pay us more. Shuval is no exceptional case; all the Negev kibbutzim are seriously contemplating an economic switch-over from agriculture to light industry, with agriculture as a side-line. Even now, the kibbutzim are existing on whatever money is brought in by their carpenter-shops, by small manufacturers of outside parts, by their garages or outside workers.

"No-one can accuse us of leading comfortable lives at the expense of development in the Negev. After five years, we have two radio sets, one in the reading-room, and one in the dining-room. No member has a wireless, or a gramophone — nor a proper cupboard. We eat in what is intended to be the carpenter-shop, and have no modern sanitation. We accept no present which cannot be shared among the



SHEIKH SULAIMAN

whole kibbutz. If help from ministerial quarters went according to production, Shuval would be the spoiled darling of the Negev. As it is, the walls of our new machine-shop have been standing for nine months because we cannot get enough asbestos to finish the roof; our combines won't be ready for the hay-harvest because we can't afford the spare-parts.

Identical Complaint. Across the highway, Sheikh Sulaiman voiced an identical complaint against the powers-that-be. He has built a real school-house for some 70 of the countless children he has fathered, but is unable to use the structure because no materials are available for a roof. The children continued to learn in a stable with the Government teacher who was no good at all — so the Sheikh assured us, eyes glinting shrewdly from a mahogany face creased with paternal amusement. He received visitors in a stone building, furnished with raimah-like chairs and photographs of himself, Herl, and Ben Gurion, hanging side by side over the official table. The most recent

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Current Chinese Drama

By O. M. GREEN

LONDON.

IT was not to be expected that, in a country so devoted to theatrical shows as China, the Communists would neglect such excellent means of "re-education" as the theatre and cinema.

Within a few weeks of Mao Tse-tung's Government being installed in 1949, authors, actors and theatrical and cinema managers had been summoned to a conference in Peking and instructed in the necessity of attuning their plays, films, productions and impersonations to the Marxist line.

The State has now taken over all the film studios of Shanghai, Peking and Manchuria, in which it employs 3,000 workers. Judging by the films seen abroad, they are doing their work very cleverly.

The films are crisply directed, the appeal direct and strong, and the acting leaves little to be desired; for the Chinese seem born to be good actors, while their natural lack of self-consciousness makes them almost ideal material for crowd scenes.

Pure Style. The Chinese first began to make films in Shanghai in the late 1920s when not-unnatural they were at first much influenced by Hollywood. Gradually, however, as China always adapts foreign innovations to her own taste, a more purely Chinese style emerged.

During the Japanese war in north-west China were quick to use the cinema as a cultural weapon. Somewhat improvised, a studio, as they had already improved so much in hospitals and arsenals, from which they sent out some stirring battle films, such as "Baptism of Fire" and "The 8th Route Army". After the war they turned their cameras against the Kuomintang, and the pictures of the misery of peasants and especially of women under Nationalist rule.

Some of the films made in the past two years, judging by the praise lavished on them by Peking papers, sound sturdy — for example "Episode in the Life of Lu Hsiang-shan" and a Lu Hsiang-shan picture of a young Communist in a factory teaching the older men how to spend up production.

Thrilling Films. But some which have been shown abroad are really thrilling. Outstanding among these are "Daughters of China", in which a group of Communist girl soldiers fight desperately against the Japanese and at last, after a long and arduous journey, they are rescued by her lover.

At first the Chinese theatre seems very strange to foreign eyes. There is no scenery; the actors suggest its existence by conventional gestures — to indicate mounting a horse, scaling a wall to rescue the heroine, etc. The costumes are gorgeous, some again, conventional — the hero, for instance, always wears a black beard. And until very recent years all the female roles were played

by men, taught to sing in high falsetto. At actors' training begins when he is 14 and includes not only declamation and singing but gymnastics and acrobatics. A stage battle everyone leaping, twirling, adorning and brandishing huge swords within an inch of each other's heads is indescribably exciting.

But as one gets used to the conventions, the mime is so vivid, the declamation so impressive that even those who can only follow the action by a synopsis in translation find themselves gripped by the performance. The emotional intensity of the heroes plays in the famous Mei Lan-fang is something never to be forgotten.

Mongol Origins. The Chinese drama dates from the Mongol dynasty, in the 13th century; before that the true theatrical form had not been created, earlier productions being somewhat like the gaudy and miracle plays in England before Shakespeare. But from the Mongol age have come down 164 orthodox dramas, all worth preserving, and of which a collection of one hundred has been picked out by Chinese critics as representing the highest flight of imaginative writing.

Some four months ago a committee was set up, under the presidency of that fiery poet and author of the revolution, Kuo Mo-Jo, to edit and re-write the classical plays on Marxist principles.

A recent message from Peking describes the springing-up of all over China of rural theatre troupes, and the theatrical groups; there are said to be some 15,000 of them with a total membership of hundreds of thousands and their performances are said to display great creative talent. The report is not improbable, for even small villages have an opera stage on which travelling companies perform.

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Chess. April 11, 1952. Problem No. 498. 1. Goldsmith, R. H. 2. Zin. 3. Goldsmith, R. H. 4. Zin. 5. Goldsmith, R. H. 6. Zin. 7. Goldsmith, R. H. 8. Zin. 9. Goldsmith, R. H. 10. Zin. 11. Goldsmith, R. H. 12. Zin. 13. Goldsmith, R. H. 14. Zin. 15. Goldsmith, R. H. 16. Zin. 17. Goldsmith, R. H. 18. Zin. 19. Goldsmith, R. H. 20. Zin. 21. Goldsmith, R. H. 22. Zin. 23. Goldsmith, R. H. 24. Zin. 25. Goldsmith, R. H. 26. Zin. 27. Goldsmith, R

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Three months	6.00	2.5.0	8	13.700	4.15.0	16.00	20.500	7.7.0	30.80	1.700	0.15.0	2.00	4.100	1.5.0	4.20
Six months	12	4.10.0	12	27.400	9.30.0	32.00	41	—	14.14.0	41.00	3.500	3.5.0	3.20	8.300	3.20.0
One year	24	8.0.0	24	54.800	18.12.0	64.00	82	—	28.0.0	82.00	7	—	7.00	16.600	6.10.0

